

REMARKS

This reply encompasses a bona fide attempt to overcome the rejections raised by the Examiner and presents amendments as well as reasons why the applicants believe that the claimed invention is novel and unobvious over the closest prior art of record, thereby placing the present application in a condition for allowance.

Regarding Claim Status

Claims 1-35 were presented for examination. Claims 1-12 were rejected. Claims 13-35 were allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 4, 10, 12, 13, and 22-30 are amended herein. Support for the amendments presented herein can be found in the specification as originally filed. By this Amendment, claims 1-35 are pending.

Regarding Objections to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicants present a new drawing 10 that addresses this objection. No new matter is added with this drawing. Drawings 1-9 have been amended to correct the numbering of the drawings.

Regarding Objections to the Claims

Claim 13 was objected to because “n” should be replaced with “b”. Claim 13 has been amended to address this objection. In addition, claims 4, 12, and 22-30 have been amended to correct grammatical errors in the claims.

Regarding 35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejections

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101, for being drawn to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 10 to specifically recite a useful, concrete, and tangible result. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1 and 10 are drawn to statutory subject matter and therefore should be allowed.

Other Remarks

In telephonic conversations with the Examiner, the Examiner expressed concern that it was not clear what device corresponded to the “means for” language in claims 13, 15, 25, 26, and 29. Applicants respectfully submit that it would be clear to a person of average skill in the art that the “means for” language refers to a graphic interface. For example, page 2, lines 11-14 of the specification, refers to use of a graphic interface to manipulate and to change the topology of deformable objects in real time. Page 34, lines 24-25, suggests that the invention can be implemented as part of a virtual reality simulator.

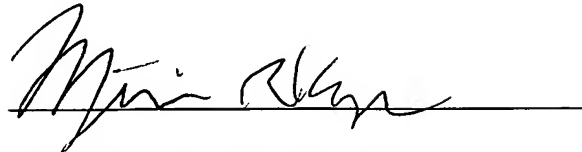
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the invention as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 10 recites subject matter that is statutory under 35 U.S.C. 101. Accordingly, amended independent claims 1 and 10 are submitted to be patentable and therefore should be allowed. Claims 2-8 and 11-12 are submitted to be patentable as they are dependent on amended independent claims 1 and 10, respectively.

This Response/Amendment is submitted to be complete and proper in that it places the present application in a condition for allowance without adding new matter. Favorable

consideration and a Notice of Allowance of all pending claims 1-35 are therefore respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miriam Kaplan', is written over a horizontal line.

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